

Abstract

The present invention relates to an image forming apparatus comprising a plurality of movable image carriers, a movable intermediate transfer body, and contacting means separably contacting to said intermediate transfer body at a contacting position. Said image carrier located most closely to said contacting position in a direction extending along said intermediate transfer body on a downstream side in a moving direction of said intermediate transfer body with respect to said contacting position. Said image carrier located most closely to said contacting position in a direction extending along said intermediate transfer body on an upstream side in a moving direction of said intermediate transfer body with respect to said contacting position. A toner image formed on said intermediate transfer body is again transferred onto a transfer material after passing through said first transfer position and said second transfer position. And formula $L_a - S_a$

L_m is satisfied where a distance from said contacting position to said first transfer position along the moving direction of said intermediate transfer body is set as L_a , where a distance from said exposing position on said first image carrier to said first transfer position along the moving direction of said first image carrier is set as S_a , and where an image length formed on said intermediate transfer body is set as L_m .